



ARC-OVER

Turlock Amateur Radio Club (T.A.R.C.)



W6BXN

www.w6bxn.org

147.030 + PL 100.0



July 2025

The next general club meeting is Tuesday July 8, 2025, at the Salvation Army 893 Lander Ave. Turlock, CA 95380. We will have the annual club potluck at this meeting. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the food and company. **The doors will open at 5:30 pm and the meeting will begin at 6:00 pm.**





From the desk of the V.P. and ARC-Over editor:
Lucian KF6NPG

Welcome to the July edition of the ARC-OVER. This month is the annual club potluck. Please bring a dish to share. Plates, utensils and water will be provided. At the August meeting we will have Root Beer Floats.

Last month Walter KI6PBL notified me of a recent silent key. With everything going on I neglected to list him in last month's ARC-OVER. Bob Darling AD6RD was 92 years old when he became a silent key. He was a former member of TARC and was last on the membership roster in 2022. Bob was very active in emergency and disaster amateur radio communications. We want to remember his family and Bob's contributions to amateur radio.

We just completed our participation in a club sponsored Field Day. The first in about 10 years. We want to thank all of those who helped organize this great event, especially TJ KO6HFA and his family for hosting the club at his beautiful property in Bootjack, CA. Our president Eric K7RKU has more information about Field Day in his president's message.

There was a great article about the club and Field Day in the Wednesday Turlock Journal before the Saturday event and it is included in the ARC-OVER. Thanks to Kevin KO6HZC for contacting the paper.

We have a lot of things going on in the club in the next couple of months, this month's potluck and next month's root beer floats. If you have anything to submit to the ARC-OVER, please let me know at kf6npg@aol.com.

Follow the club on discord, face book website, and read the ARC-OVER for club activity information. Please enjoy all the pictures and thanks to Don W6DEJ for contributing some of the photos.









Arc-Over "Message from the President" Article – July, 2025

I found something out at Field Day...

I'm writing this piece just a day back from TARC's first-in-a-while Field Day in Bootjack, California. I took part, with 25 or so other people, in a wonderful event put on by dedicated club members in a beautiful setting in the foothills near Mariposa. We were graciously hosted by TJ and Laurie Barrett at their ranch in Bootjack, and the setting could not have been more perfect for our Field Day. Some club members came up for the day on Saturday to get some radio operating in, some stayed over a night or two, and some stayed back in town due to other obligations but cheered us on and gave us contacts on 80m or UHF / VHF. And one of the club's newest members, Kevin did an incredible job setting up and single-handedly running a well-organized kitchen and dining area that served as the hub of the event. It seemed like there were always at least a few hams relaxing and talking radio in the dining area. Kevin also went up to the ranch early to set up signage and work with our hosts to ensure everything went smoothly.

We had a few folks show up who had been involved in TARC in years past - and all seemed happy to see the club doing well with an enthusiastic and well-run Field Day effort. For me however, the real highlight of the event was seeing newer hams like Jerry and Kevin making their first HF contacts side by side with our mentoring team on the air. That was what I really wanted to accomplish with Field Day - helping those newer to amateur radio discover the magic that happens when you make a radio contact with another ham you've never met. For me Field Day was a natural extension of one of my biggest priorities for the club - making the club a great place for new hams and a great resource for those who want to learn more about amateur radio.

In the middle of all the excitement of Field Day however, I discovered something very unexpected. Being new to the job of leading the club, and not yet retired from my work, I've found myself doing more administrative tasks with the club than I foresaw and less radio operating. As the Field Day weekend unfolded there were a lot of little intervals where organized activities had finished, or were not yet started. And to my surprise I found myself heading back to the club station to tune around the bands and make more contacts. As I turned the VFO knob gently in search of voices, re-tuned my antenna, and tried the different filters on my rig to get the best reception I realized in that moment that I had absolutely found the satisfaction that I was hoping others would find in radio operating at

the event. And I was a better radio operator for having come to the event. To me personally that was the greatest blessing of the weekend.

Though Field Day was a big effort, and a big milestone for the club this year we are by no means “done for the year”. We’ll use the experience we gained to better organize and hold club events over the coming months. We want to improve the value of the club to our members! I’ve already had several members tell me they can hardly wait for next year’s Field day and frankly, I couldn’t agree more.

I’ll look forward to seeing all of you next Tuesday at the meeting!

Eric (K7RKU)

President, Turlock Amateur Radio Club



Kristina Hacker

Turlock Journal

Published: Jun 24, 2025, 10:27 PM

Radio 'hams' from Turlock join in national event



Greg KN6ZGE (left) and Eric K7RKU of the Turlock Amateur Radio Club (Photo contributed).

Kevin Duffy said he first got into “ham radio” when as a youngster he purchased a shortwave radio kit from Radio Shack.

“I made my own little shortwave AM radio so I could listen to the weather report and airplanes go by,” he said.

Today, Duffy is a member of the Turlock Amateur Radio Club and one of many ham radio enthusiasts who will be participating in the “Amateur Radio Week” Field Day.

Using only emergency power supplies, ham operators will construct emergency stations in parks, shopping malls, schools and back yards around the country this weekend. Their slogan, "Ham radio works when other systems don't!" is more than just words to the hams as they prove they can send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, internet or any other infrastructure that can be

compromised in a crisis. More than 30,000 amateur radio operators across the country participated in last year's event.

"We hope that people will come and see for themselves, this is not your grandfather's radio anymore," said Allen Pitts of the ARRL, the national association for amateur radio. "The communications that ham radio people can quickly create have saved many lives when other systems failed or were overloaded. And besides that – it's fun."

The Turlock Amateur Radio Club (TARC) will be demonstrating amateur radio at 3801 Sherrod Rd. in Mariposa on Saturday. The public is invited to come and see ham radio's new capabilities and learn how to get their own FCC radio license before the next disaster strikes.

Over the past year, the news has been full of reports of ham radio operators providing critical communications during unexpected emergencies in towns across America including the California wildfires, winter storms, tornadoes, and other events world-wide. During Hurricane Katrina, amateur radio was often the only way people could communicate, and hundreds of volunteer "hams" traveled south to save lives and property. When trouble is brewing, Amateur Radio's people are often the first to provide rescuers with critical information and communications.

During the field day, the newest digital and satellite capabilities will be showcased, along with voice communications and even historical Morse code, demonstrating ham radio's emergency communications abilities.

While this weekend is a national field day, Duffy said that the Turlock club will often participate in POTA (Parks on the Air) event, where people go out to national parks and try to make contacts.

Duffy said that as part of a POTA event, you find out how many people you can talk to from that location and how far away the people are you're contacting.

There are over 650,000 amateur radio licensees in the U.S., and more than 2.5 million around the world. Through the ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Services program, ham volunteers provide emergency communications for thousands of state and local emergency response agencies, all for free.

To learn more about amateur radio, go to www.emergency-radio.org. To learn more about the Turlock Amateur Radio Club go to <https://w6bxn.org/>.

Meeting of the Turlock Amateur Radio Club
June 10, 2025 @ 7:00 P.M.
Regular Club Meeting
Salvation Army Facility, 893 Lander Ave, Turlock

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Eric McMillan with 24 members and guests in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance,

Introductions,

Secretary's Report: Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes motion by Lucian and seconded by Dinnie,

Officer Reports:

President Eric led a general discussion concerning a Yaesu FT891 radio, followed by a discussion of a Ham Radio lending program, and then as a club fund-raiser TARC logo emblems and T-shirts.

It was announced that Tuesday night nets would be operated by Fernando and Melinda as well as occasionally Ed.

It was announced that tonight's raffle prize would be a Chameleon 9010 HF antenna.

Vice President Lucian discussed photos regarding the Arc-Over and that tonight's "program" will be a discussion on "Field Day" and next month would be the annual "Pot Luck," August would be "Root Beer Float" month.

Both Spencer and Dave were MIA save that Merced ARES would be an on-line only this coming Wednesday.

Treasurer - Lena reported on the current balances and collected dues.

Sergeant at Arms - Jerry Nothing to report.

Member at Large - John MIA

Member at Large - Bambi Nothing to report.

Other Reports:

VE Report - Richard reported that with new responsibilities and schedule at work Brandon and Lucian will be taking lead on Testing. Further he reported that tonight Chris passed her Extra Class Exam and Burton passed his Tech Exam.

Standing Committees:

A discussion ensued concerning Field Day at TJ's in Mariposa County, and that the site had been visited, followed by a discussion on the progress on Field Day Planning and current needs.

Old Business:

Update on utilizing Card Payment system as an option to the club website – pending

New Business:

VE Report above.

Meeting Adjourned: by Motion by Greg, Seconded by Brandon and Motion carried.

Walter Schmidt, Secretary



TARC Discord Server

Turlock Amateur Radio Club

Income Expenses

June 30, 2025

Beginning Bank Balance as of Bank Statement 05/31/2025 \$ 6,732.28

42721	Raffle	300.00
47210	Membership Dues	100.00
47500	Stickers	65.00
47301	Donations - Field Day	100.00

Total Income \$ 565.00

47275	Raffle Purchase -MAY	(251.72)
62890	Utilities - PG&G	(131.31)
65014	Liability Insurance	(300.00)
60110	Antenna Building Project	(205.41)
65015	Meeting Refreshments Feb/May/Jun	(66.33)
65048	Statement of Information	(5.00)

Total Expenses \$ (959.77)

Ending Banks Balance 06/30/2025 \$ 6,337.51





Amateur Radio Operators, or “hams,” have a long history of serving their communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, such as cell phone towers and fiber optic networks. Amateur radio functions completely independent of the internet and phone systems, and a ham radio station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. Amateurs can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect it to a radio and power source, and communicate effectively with others.

The ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service® ARES® (www.arrl.org/ares) consists of hams who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment with their local ARES leadership for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes. They use their training, skills, and equipment to prepare for and provide communications during emergencies When All Else Fails®. (Courtesy of the ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League).

If you are interested in emergency communications and serving the community, please consider joining Merced ARES. They have a weekly radio net on Mondays on the TARC repeater at 7:00 pm. **Meetings are held monthly on the third Wednesday at 6:00 pm and will be held over ZOOM. ARES members look for an e-mail from Dave KG6NUO. If you are not on his e mail list, please email Dave to get on the list for the meetings at dave.anderson@losbanosonline.net .** For more information, please contact the Merced ARES Emergency Coordinator, Dave KG6NUO.



UPCOMING EVENTS

The club will sponsor 5 amateur radio license test sessions in 2025.

February 11, 2025, April 8, 2025, June 10, 2025, August 12, 2025, and October 14, 2025.

July

Tuesday 8th. **Club meeting will start at 6:00 pm this month. The doors will open at 5:30 pm.** Meeting place as usual at the Salvation Army 893 Lander Ave.

Turlock, CA. This is the annual club potluck. Think about bringing a dish to share. Plates, utensils and water will be provided.

Wednesday 16th Merced ARES meeting 6:00 pm. The meetings will be held over ZOOM. ARES members look for an e-mail from Dave KG6NUO. If you are not on his e mail list, please email him to get on the list for the meeting at dave.anderson@losbanosonline.net .

August

Tuesday 12th. Club meeting is at 7:00 pm, doors will open at 7:00 pm, as there will be a ham testing session at 6:00pm. Meeting place as usual at the Salvation Army 893 Lander Ave. Turlock, CA. Root Beer Floats and a presentation on TARC Field Day follow up.

Wednesday 20th Merced ARES meeting 6:00 pm. The meetings will be held over ZOOM. ARES members look for an e-mail from Dave KG6NUO. If you are not on his e mail list, please email him to get on the list for the meeting at dave.anderson@losbanosonline.net .

September

Tuesday 9th. Club meeting will start at 7:00 pm and the doors will open at 6:30 pm. Meeting place as usual at the Salvation Army 893 Lander Ave. Turlock, CA. Presentation TBD

Wednesday 17th Merced ARES meeting 6:00 pm. The meetings will be held over ZOOM. ARES members look for an e-mail from Dave KG6NUO. If you are not on his e mail list, please email him to get on the list for the meeting at dave.anderson@losbanosonline.net .

TARC System Nets

- TARC Tuesday Night Club Net - Tuesdays 7 PM, except for the second Tuesday (club meeting night)
- Bacon and Eggs Net - Weekdays 7 AM
- Merced ARES Net – Mondays 7 PM
- San Joaquin Valley Section ARES Net – Sundays 7:30 PM

2025 Dues

You can now join or renew your membership for 2025. Your dues help with paying for the rent and maintenance of the TARC repeater system and club events. If you have not already done so, please consider joining or renewing your club membership. Thanks to everyone who has renewed, joined, or donated to the club. Please include a [membership application](#) to help keep our information up to date. Thanks!

- Individual Membership: \$25
- Family Membership: \$35

Are you receiving TARC emails? If not [head over to W6BXN.org](http://W6BXN.org) and subscribe.

2025 Club Officers

To protect TARC members' personal information, we will no longer post the list of members on the club website. For all club inquiries, including membership status, please send an email to info@w6bxn.org.

President Eric K7RKU

Secretary Walter KI6PB

Sergeant at Arms Jerry KN6GJK

Member at Large Bambi KI6YQL

Vice President/ARC-OVER Editor Lucian KF6NPG

Treasurer Lena KN6VOH

Member at Large John N6JCS

Club Trustee Spencer KJ6ART

